

In the Claims

1-19 (Cancelled)

20. (New) A valve for a bladder control device, comprising:

an elongate housing having a proximal end, a distal end, and a valve lumen extending therethrough, said valve lumen including a first lumen portion defining a first lumen diameter, a second lumen portion distal the first lumen portion defining a second lumen diameter greater than the first lumen diameter, and a third lumen portion distal the second lumen portion defining a third lumen diameter less than the second lumen diameter;

a valve seat disposed within the housing;

a stopper disposed within the housing and moveable between a first position engaging the valve seat and a second position disposed distally of the valve seat, said stopper being configured to move within the first lumen portion in response to fluidic pressure without allowing fluid to flow through the valve lumen; and

a spring connected to the stopper to bias the stopper toward the valve seat.

21. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the stopper includes a proximal portion having a first diameter.

22. (New) The valve of claim 21, wherein the stopper includes a distal portion having a second diameter greater than said first diameter.

23. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the valve lumen tapers along a slope between the second lumen portion and the third lumen portion.

24. (New) The valve of claim 23, wherein the stopper includes a sloping portion.

25. (New) The valve of claim 24, wherein the slope between the second and third lumen portions and the sloping portion of the stopper are configured to create an initial negative pressure within the valve lumen in response to fluid flow.

26. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of between 14 F to 26 F.

27. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of between 16 F to 22 F.

28. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of approximately 18 F.

29. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the spring is a tension spring.

30. (New) The valve of claim 29, wherein the spring is under greater tension loading when the stopper is in the second position than when the stopper is in the first position.

31. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the spring includes a helical portion.

32. (New) The valve of claim 20, wherein the spring is disposed distally of the stopper.

33. (New) The valve of claim 20, further comprising an elongate shaft portion coupling the spring to the stopper.

34. (New) The valve of claim 33, wherein the elongate shaft portion includes a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end of said shaft portion being disposed within an internal bore of the stopper, the distal end of the shaft portion being coupled to the spring.

35. (New) A valve for a bladder control device, comprising:
an elongate housing having a proximal end, a distal end, and a valve lumen extending therethrough, said valve lumen including a first lumen portion defining a first lumen diameter, a second lumen portion distal the first lumen portion defining a second lumen diameter greater than the first lumen diameter, and a third lumen portion distal the

second lumen portion defining a third lumen diameter less than the second lumen diameter;

a valve seat disposed within the housing;

a stopper disposed within the housing and moveable between a first position engaging the valve seat and a second position disposed distally of the valve seat;

a spring connected to the stopper to bias the stopper toward the valve seat; and

an elongate shaft portion coupling the spring to the stopper.

36. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the stopper includes a proximal portion having a first diameter.

37. (New) The valve of claim 36, wherein the stopper includes a distal portion having a second diameter greater than said first diameter.

38. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the valve lumen tapers along a slope between the second lumen portion and the third lumen portion.

39. (New) The valve of claim 38, wherein the stopper includes a sloping portion.

40. (New) The valve of claim 39, wherein the slope between the second and third lumen portions and the sloping portion of the stopper are configured to create an initial negative pressure within the valve lumen in response to fluid flow.

41. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of between 14 F to 26 F.

42. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of between 16 F to 22 F.

43. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of approximately 18 F.

44. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the spring is a tension spring.

45. (New) The valve of claim 44, wherein the spring is under greater tension loading when the stopper is in the second position than when the stopper is in the first position.

46. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the spring includes a helical portion.

47. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the spring is disposed distally of the stopper.

48. (New) The valve of claim 35, wherein the elongate shaft portion includes a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end of said shaft portion being disposed within an internal bore of the stopper, the distal end of the shaft portion being coupled to the spring.

49. (New) A valve for a bladder control device, comprising:

an elongate housing having a proximal end, a distal end, and a valve lumen extending therethrough, said valve lumen including a first lumen portion defining a first lumen diameter, a second lumen portion distal the first lumen portion defining a second lumen diameter greater than the first lumen diameter, and a third lumen portion distal the second lumen portion defining a third lumen diameter less than the second lumen diameter;

a valve seat disposed within the housing;

a stopper disposed within the housing and moveable between a first position engaging the valve seat and a second position disposed distally of the valve seat;

a spring connected to the stopper to bias the stopper toward the valve seat; and

an elongate shaft portion coupling the spring to the stopper, said shaft portion including a proximal end disposed within an internal bore of the stopper.

50. (New) The valve of claim 49, wherein the stopper includes a proximal portion having a first diameter.

51. (New) The valve of claim 50, wherein the stopper includes a distal portion having a second diameter greater than said first diameter.

52. (New) The valve of claim 49, wherein the valve lumen tapers along a slope between the second lumen portion and the third lumen portion.

53. (New) The valve of claim 52, wherein the stopper includes a sloping portion.

54. (New) The valve of claim 53, wherein the slope between the second and third lumen portions and the sloping portion of the stopper are configured to create an initial negative pressure within the valve lumen in response to fluid flow.

55. (New) The valve of claim 50, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of between 14 F to 26 F.

56. (New) The valve of claim 50, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of between 16 F to 22 F.

57. (New) The valve of claim 50, wherein the housing has an outer diameter of approximately 18 F.

58. (New) The valve of claim 50, wherein the spring is a tension spring.

59. (New) The valve of claim 58, wherein the spring is under greater tension loading when the stopper is in the second position than when the stopper is in the first position.

60. (New) The valve of claim 50, wherein the spring includes a helical portion.

61. (New) The valve of claim 50, wherein the spring is disposed distally of the stopper.

62. (New) A valve for a bladder control device, comprising:
an elongate housing having a proximal end, a distal end, and a valve lumen extending therethrough, said valve lumen including a first lumen portion defining a first lumen diameter, a second lumen portion distal the first lumen portion defining a second lumen diameter greater than the first lumen diameter, and a third lumen portion distal the second lumen portion defining a third lumen diameter less than the second lumen diameter;

a valve seat disposed within the housing;
a stopper disposed within the housing and moveable between a first position engaging the valve seat and a second position disposed distally of the valve seat, said stopper being configured to move within the first lumen portion in response to fluidic pressure without allowing fluid to flow through the valve lumen;

a spring connected to the stopper to bias the stopper toward the valve seat; and
an elongate shaft portion coupling the spring to the stopper, said shaft portion
including a proximal end disposed within an internal bore of the stopper.